

9:00 AM

JULY 23, 2021

The State of Maryland is operating under an Elevated Level II status due to the COVID-19 epidemic. As such, this meeting was held online through GoToWebinar.

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Members:

Jon Morrison, Chair	Marian Vessels
Antoine RJ Wright	Marquette Rogers
Andrew Mengel	Patti Stevens
Chelsea Hayman	Pierre Stewart
Jeff Hirsch	Sarah Lipkin Sularz
Jim Titus	Steve Friedman
John Wetmore	Steve Green
Kristi Pier	

Absent Members:

Eli Glazier	Karen Schonfeld
Gabriel Rose	Lt. Laura Beck
Heather Ersts	

Non-Members:

Carol Kachadoorian	Charlene Mingus	Daniel Paschall
Dominic Scali	Joel Gallihue	Jon Korin
Kristy Daphnis	Larry Schoen	Michael Farrell
Kim Minseok	Owen Bailey	Paula Hubble
Patrick McMahon	Richard Braley	Roy Gothie
Richard Schoenfeld	Sharon Guida	Siera Wigfield
Stephanie Piperno	Mary Womack- Norris	

Staff:

Nate Evans	Francine Waters
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I. Welcome & Introductions (10 min)

Jon Morrison, Chair opened the meeting with introductions of committee members and MDOT support staff.

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (5 min)

A revised agenda was presented with Old Business added to Public Comment. There were no objections to the modified agenda.

Jim Titus moved to approve the minutes of the April 2021 MBPAC meeting. Antoine RJ Wright seconded the motion. The April 23, 2021 meeting minutes were approved by the committee.



III. Old Business & Public Comment (20 minutes)

Jon Korin encouraged the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) or Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) to develop a public education messaging campaign for the October 1, 2021, start of the Vulnerable Road User (VRU) protections under Maryland law.

Jon Korin stated that Anne Arundel County passed an ordinance to allow bicycle riding on sidewalks and successfully used C3FT technology to convict a driver who intentionally passed within the required three feet passing distance. Dominic Scali with the Anne Arundel County Police Department indicated that the county police department hopes to train others with the technology. <https://bikeaaa.org/2021/04/23/maryland-driver-convicted-of-violating-3-foot-bicycle-passing-law-based-on-cycliq-video-evidence>

Marquette Rogers shared the East-West Highway Pedestrian Safety Efforts Townhall on July 27th, 7pm - 9pm by the District 18 Representatives, County DOT and State Highway Admins <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdRLnzDIFNqg57Vx-N4QscovCHeJAY-s2JGsxJOoTUqyCtTDA/viewform>

Roy Gothie, Pennsylvania DOT Active Transportation Planner, shared that US Bike Route 11 is going to be signed from Maryland to New York, continuing Maryland's recently signed section. <https://www.penndot.gov/TravelInPA/RideaBike/Pages/default.aspx>

Carol Kachadoorian shared a link to a new Maryland section:

<https://www.adventurecycling.org/members/news/five-new-u-s-bicycle-routes-to-celebrate-in-the-new-year/>

Daniel Paschall commends MDOT SHA and others for the MD 193 University Parkway protected bike lane project and that this practice should be repeated elsewhere across the state.

Richard Schoenfeld shared his story of how e-biking helped him recover from health issues and to keep up with friends while biking. Richard advised that Maryland should allow e-bikes on shared-use paths, like the Western Maryland Rail Trail. Many on the call agreed. Andrew Mengel shared DNR's e-bike restrictions:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/Statewide-Maryland-Park-Policies.aspx>

Roy Gothie shared Montour Trail's etiquette guide for e-bikes:

<https://montourtrail.org/wpSupport/events/MTCSafetyBrochure09022018.pdf>

Jon Korin stated Anne Arundel County's trail chief agrees with speed limits are a better regulatory measure as opposed to the mechanical capabilities of e-bikes. **Jon Morrison requested the committee provide recommendations to the state on e-bicycle allowances.**



Kristy Daphnis was invited to share how the Open Streets Montgomery worked with MDOT SHA to install temporary, protected bike lanes on MD 193 (University Boulevard) between Amherst Avenue and Arcola Avenue. The project connects Wheaton, Sligo Creek Trail with adjacent neighborhoods and will remain in place through the summer. Kristy invited all to join her on a bike ride on University Boulevard. https://mdot-sha-md193-amherst-to-arcola-shared-streets-maryland.hub.arcgis.com/?fbclid=IwAR2IFMIFmEtHEd_hmEs5VcmUzF-NJgrg4Z1UzmRYLDPdggZOIDkvwhBd1Ao

IV. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (10 minutes)

Marian Vessels shared that the **Pedestrian Subcommittee** hosted a quarterly meeting with more than 30 participants. The subcommittee developed a mission statement and goals, which were shared. Francine Waters shared that Walktober planning continues with October 7th being Walk Maryland Day.

Patti Stevens shared that the **Eastern Shore subcommittee** held an April meeting in Easton which helped initiate Thrive Talbot, a group focusing on active, healthy lifestyles for all. The next quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, September 3 in Salisbury.

V. Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

Kristi Pier (Maryland Department of Health) shared the launch of a team-based walking academy, which will be available to community partners and elected officials to create more walkable communities. The link to applications will be distributed in late September.

Chelsea Hayman (Maryland Department of Disabilities) is working with bicycle and disability advocates to address floating bus stop designs. The Department is also working with the Department of Planning to develop more inclusive planning process for the disability committee. Sarah Lipkin Sularz (Maryland Department of Planning) echoed how this initiative is an exciting process for the Department to reach more citizens.

Nate Evans shared that MDOT Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program received 21 applications requesting \$8.3 million in funding. The FY22 selection process will continue through the summer with announcements in the fall along with Transportation Alternatives Program and Recreational Trails Program awards. Nate also shared that MDOT's State Rail Plan is being updated. Along with Patti Stevens, Nate is coordinating with MDOT rail program manager Harry Romano on recommendations and outcomes. Please send all rail plan comments to Patti Stevens.

Patti Stevens requested a future panel discussion on innovative rail trail coordination including Rails to Trails, Virginia and New Jersey DOT and advocates.

As requested in a previous meeting, Nate Evans shared MDOT SHA's comments submitted to the Federal Highway Administration on the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FHWA-2020-0001-14994> or visit <https://www.regulations.gov> and search "MUTCD Maryland"

Patrick McMahon (MDOT Maryland Transit Administration) thanks Jon Morrison and Jon Korin for participating in MDOT MTA's announcement of full-size bikes being allowed on the Camden



MARC line. Patrick shared links to the announcement:

- Bikes on all MARC trains video - <https://youtu.be/vDfpYQPKAOY?t=1>
- Bikes on all MARC trains announcement - <https://www.mta.maryland.gov/articles/311>
- Bikes on MDOT MTA info - <https://www.mta.maryland.gov/bike>
- Bikes on MDOT MTA brochure - <https://s3.amazonaws.com/mta-website-staging/mta-website-staging/files/Brochures/Bike%20Brochure%20Web%20Version2021.pdf>

MDOT MTA is also expanding bicycle parking access at multiple rail transit stations.

MDOT Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) announced over \$1 million in grants to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety through education and enforcement.

VI. Harford County Bicycle & Pedestrian Mater Plan (20 min)

Joel Gallihue, Chief of Long-Range Planning for the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning shared a presentation on Harford County's Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan update. With assistance from Maryland and Delaware Departments of Transportation, the plan's analysis used Open Streets Maps to identify low-traffic-stress islands and census data to identify a projects' potential improvement to access and mobility. The plan is open for comment online: <https://harford-county-bike-ped-plan-harfordgis.hub.arcgis.com/>

VII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (10 min)

Nate Evans shared the following action items:

1. The committee will develop e-bicycle recommendations to provide to the state.
2. Nate Evans will coordinate a panel discussion on rail trail recommendations for Maryland
3. Patti Stevens will collect comments on the State's Rail Plan and coordinate with Nate Evans
4. Nate Evans will provide additional information on the MHSO safety grants.

The next MBPAC meeting will be held on Friday, October 22, 2021.

Jim Titus motioned to adjourn the meeting. Antoine RJ Wright seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.